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The Intelligence.

WHEELING, W. VA., JANUARY 1, 1887.

REPUBLICAN PARTY TICKET.

FOR MAYOR—D. R. DAVENPORT.
FOR CITY CLERK—J. W. BOWERS.
FOR CITY COMMISSIONER—THOMAS D. BENNETT.
FOR WARD MATRONS—HENRY SKAMON.

The Opening Year.

The year that has closed was one of great industrial disturbance following a long period of depression. If the lessons of the year have been heeded the country is stronger by reason of these unhappy experiences, for it has increased its fund of practical knowledge.

Let us hope that we may have seen the last of the radical disagreements and serious outbreaks which, in the past year, so seriously affected both the labor and the capital of the country.

The new year opens with much better promise than any of its predecessors have brought in five years. The general condition of the country has been steadily and surely, though slowly improving. The weeding out process has gone on until the weak have gone to the wall and, for the most part, only the strong survive.

In all the commercial channels there is a better tone and indications of real strength are among the prominent features of general business. Manufacturers are showing more and more healthiness. There are not the vast accumulations of stocks with which other years have opened; and though prices average low and manufacturers' margins are close-cut, there is a good and increasing demand.

Not the least comforting feature of the outlook is that there is a better feeling. Confidence is holding its head up once more and inspiring the people to action. There is plenty of money for legitimate enterprises, and it is once more seeking the productive channels from which its conservation induced it to withdraw while business seemed on the down grade.

Fortunately the future gives no foreboding of a boom. There may be some unhealthy activity in one or two lines which seem to be leading that way, but unless the signs are misleading the country is quietly gliding into a safe prosperous path not soon to be disturbed by the reckless dash of wild-cat speculation from which the reaction is certain and the resulting prostration inevitable. The promise for the opening year is for a gentle and steady improvement in business, bringing more employment for wage-earners at fair compensation, and this without greatly enhancing values for staple commodities.

THE FIRST BABY.

It is Early Handling and the Choice of a Nurse.

BY MRS. M. H. HANBY.

(Copyrighted 1886.)

Some indefatigable person, with a taste for statistics, claims to have discovered by research among the mortality records of various countries that a larger proportion of the first babies die than of any others; that is to say, that the first born of a family has less chance of reaching adult age than any of its future brothers or sisters.

Without access to the proper documents, it is impossible either to verify or disprove this statement; still, assuming it to be correct, the reason is not far to seek. The American mother, especially with her first baby, is not frequently an object of pity. Rarely has her previous education fitted her, and it is by experiments, not by study, that she learns how to manage her successors.

When the child cries she is totally unable to tell what ails it; whether it cries because of pain, or from bodily discomfort, or is often the case, discomfort which may be caused by tight clothing, by heat, by cold, feed—a most fruitful source of colic, etc.—or by unskillful handling, since the art of holding a baby correctly does not come to us by nature. Indeed, instruction therein forms part of the regular curriculum at medical colleges.

In spite of the fallings of monthly nurses and immorality by Charles Dickens, there are those who really merit the high wages which they demand. With them, however, we have nothing to do. Our business is with the young mother when the nurse is gone, and she is thrown upon her own resources.

A mistake made by many women, through false ideas of economy, is that of discharging the monthly nurse too soon. To overtax the strength at such a time is to draw heavily upon your capital, an extravagance which is likely to be dearly paid for hereafter.

When she leaves, by all means have the best nurse you can afford for your child, and to this end exact unexceptionable references. Do not trust to written ones. Many a woman is weak enough to give a good "character" to a discharged servant, through motives of pity or something else, who if you push her into a corner with a direct question will answer you frankly, and tell you all you need to know. Require strictly as to the girl's temper, sobriety, honesty, neatness and general qualifications.

If you cannot have all the virtues for the sum you are prepared to pay, at least give your child the best nurse you can get.

Having engaged the girl, watch her, no matter what her recommendations may be. Let nothing but actual physical disability induce you to give the entire charge of your baby into the hands of any hired servant; and even then, and if it be possible, first be assured that your deputy is trustworthy.

Nobody knows how much little children suffer from colic at the hands of the unprincipled persons to whom they are too often ignorantly entrusted. More than one fatal attack of brain disease has been directly traced to a dose of opium given by an unscrupulous nurse to quiet a crying baby, and many a baby has caught its death from exposure to a hot sun or cold wind in its perambulator while its careless nurse gossiped with lover or friend, or read dime novels in the public parks, and last but not least, many a nervous child has been injured for life by the nursery bugbears with which it has been terrified into submission and quiet; not always by the nurse.

We know of one busy woman, and well-known writer, whose children are models of good health, who always brings home the first year of their existence devoted herself

entirely to her babies, abandoning every other duty to this, and afterwards exercises the most jealous supervision of them and their nurses, exacting a careful account of every hour, if not moment spent out of sight.

The mother who never bathes and dresses her baby, who does not nurse it, and who sleeps away from it in another room, loses much of its sweetness, and both she and her child are to be pitied.

"There is a medicine in all things," and while no woman is called upon to make a grave of herself to her child; indeed the doing so is a positive injury to both, still she has no right to give the sacred charge of her baby to a hired nurse, and daily discharged when she pays their wages.

The proper age for a nurse is a next question. Many wise mothers prefer elderly women, while others declare that these children are brighter and happier who are placed in charge of young nurses, who are livelier and play with them more. Probably disposition has more to do with this matter than age, or as a servant to whom objection was made on the score of her youth, once said, "Not first the year that does the work, but frequently a half grown girl, if carefully superintended, makes the best of nurses; moreover she is usually ready to adopt your rules and carry out your instructions than an older woman who thinks herself the wiser of the two."

The professional nurse is apt to have a will of her own, and in case of sickness, to set even the doctor at defiance. Columns might be filled with instances of their pride. For example one experienced nurse, having learned from a leading acquaintance, to insist on the necessity of her daily washing, it persisted to the day of her death in greasing all her nursing from head to foot before their daily bath, insisting that the practice was necessary both for health and the beauty of their complexion.

Another nurse could never be persuaded to warm the water in which she washed the baby. "No, marm," she would say, "I always washes children in water fresh from the hydrant; warm water makes them doleful," and would not hesitatingly give up a good place rather than yield the point.

A foolish notion prevalent among the lower classes in several countries is that a babe at the breast can be treated against colic by being made to swallow everything which the mother eats. The writer was once horrified to find her nurse about to give her baby cold saw on this principle; the girl defending herself on the plea that her mother always did it and that it was good for the child. From the very first let it be understood that your child are to be managed according to your rules, and not according to the ideas of the nurse. For your own sake as well as for theirs, insist that an infant shall never be walked to sleep or to quiet its crying. Once he is in the habit of walking you will be forced to keep it up. On the other hand the child who is not walked, knows nothing of the pleasant motion, and does not cry for it. Walking an infant is a heavy tax on the nervous system of the mother, and as such is certain to react on the child. Moreover, when a baby has learned the delight of such exercise, nothing else serves to quiet it, and it becomes an unreasonable because unreasoning tyrant.

FARMERS and Horsemen read this:—I find Salvation Oil a most excellent liniment among horses, and I take pleasure in endorsing it as a certain remedy for scratches.

JAMES THOMAS, Franklin Road, near Baltimore.

A stern-looking woman in Chicago nearly killed a young man with a staro recently because he did not give her any gas. She came around for a fight.

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Advice to Mothers.

Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of cutting teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of Mrs. WISNOR'S SOOTHING SYRUP FOR CHILDREN TEething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake. Every form of Scurvy, dysentery and diarrhea, regulates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic, softens the gums, reduces inflammation and gives tone and energy to the whole system. Mrs. WISNOR'S SOOTHING SYRUP cures Children's Teething, and is the best of the kind. It is a positive cure, and we guarantee it. Price 25 cents a bottle. WISNOR.

"A good milliner," says one of them, "takes as few stitches as possible." We fear this idea is also in the minds of the people who see on lattices.

If you would enjoy your dinner and are prevented by dyspepsia, use Acker's Dyspepsia Tablets. They are a positive cure for dyspepsia, indigestion, flatulency and constipation. We guarantee them. 25c and 50c. Logan & Co. and C. Menckmeller.

To overtax the strength at such a time is to draw heavily upon your capital, an extravagance which is likely to be dearly paid for hereafter.

When she leaves, by all means have the best nurse you can afford for your child, and to this end exact unexceptionable references. Do not trust to written ones. Many a woman is weak enough to give a good "character" to a discharged servant, through motives of pity or something else, who if you push her into a corner with a direct question will answer you frankly, and tell you all you need to know. Require strictly as to the girl's temper, sobriety, honesty, neatness and general qualifications.

If you cannot have all the virtues for the sum you are prepared to pay, at least give your child the best nurse you can get.

Having engaged the girl, watch her, no matter what her recommendations may be. Let nothing but actual physical disability induce you to give the entire charge of your baby into the hands of any hired servant; and even then, and if it be possible, first be assured that your deputy is trustworthy.

Nobody knows how much little children suffer from colic at the hands of the unprincipled persons to whom they are too often ignorantly entrusted. More than one fatal attack of brain disease has been directly traced to a dose of opium given by an unscrupulous nurse to quiet a crying baby, and many a baby has caught its death from exposure to a hot sun or cold wind in its perambulator while